Masonic Temple

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THE FREEMASON AND THE FEZ

In the interests of Freemasonry and the Mystic Shrine in North America.

JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER, EDITOR.

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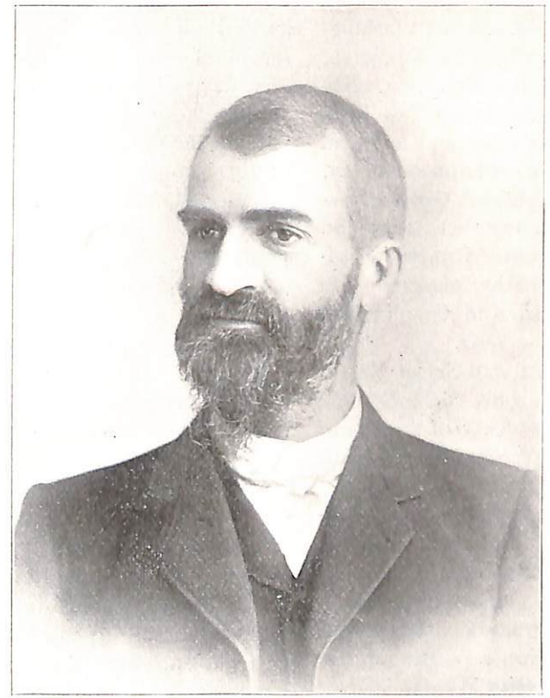
The FREEMASON

In the Interests of Freemasonry and Concordant Orders.

VOLUME III. CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, SEPTEMBER, 1895. NUMBER 9.



HON. A. R. DEWEY,
PAST GRAND COMMANDER OF IOWA.

A PAST GRAND COMMANDER.

It is with pleasure that we present with this number the portrait of that well-known and beloved frater, Hon. A. R. Dewey, Past Grand Commander of Iowa Knights Templar. Almon R. Dewey was born at Mantua, Portage County, Ohio, Oct. 1, 1845, and became a resident of Iowa Jan. 1, 1868 at Washington, Washington county, where he now makes his home. He adopted the legal profession for his life work and from 1870 to 1890 practiced law. He was elected Judge of the Courts in his district, (the Sixth) in 1890, was re-elected in 1894 and is now in office.

His Masonic career has been brilliant and conspicuous. He was initiated in Washington Lodge No. 26, at Washington, Iowa, May 5, 1871, passed June 16, and raised July 7 of the same year. He was elected Senior Grand Warden of Iowa June 7, 1892. He was exalted as a Royal Arch Mason in Cyprus Chapter No. 13, Feb. 21, 1872, was appointed Grand Master of the First Vail in October, 1872 and in 1873 was elected High Priest, which office he filled for a number of years. He was D. G. H. P. 1887, and Grand High Priest 1880 and again in 1881.

He was made a Royal and Select Master in 1872, was R. I. M. of his local Council and was the ranking officer of the Grand Council of Iowa when it was merged with the Grand Chapter in 1878.

He was knighted in Palestine Commandery No. 2, Iowa City, Feb. 17, 1874. He has served in the offices of E. C., Grand Captain General 1884, Deputy Grand Commander 1885 and Grand Commander of Iowa 1886. He is a Noble of the Mystic Shrine and a Scottish Rite Mason.

Judge Dewey is a man whom his Masonic brethren have delighted to honor and who has a warm place in the hearts of all who know him.

The FREEMASON AND FEZ costs but $1.00 per year. Send in your subscription.

"ROB." MORRIS.

No Mason in this country, during the last forty odd years, has been so prominently before the fraternity as Brother Morris through his writings and lectures on the sublime principles of Masonry. The fire of genius flashed from his soul and his whole life was inspired by the divine teaching of the Holy Bible. His travels in the Holy Land are thrilling revelations of the closeness of the mortal with the spiritual life and the awe with which he discovered traces of Masonry through forty centuries of time. Every sister of every chapter of the O. E. S. should hold in sacred admiration his noble memory, for he was virtually the heroic founder of that sublime Order, and all who are kindled into highest aspirations by its teachings, know well what fervent gratitude they owe to the imperishable memory of that lofty soul, which has passed beyond the veil and into the glory of the Temple "not made by hands."

The best sketch of the life of "Bob" Morris is that written by Daniel McDonald and published in the *Masonic Advocate* sometime ago. It is given herewith in full.

He was born in Mississippi, August 31, 1818, and was made a Mason in Oxford Lodge, that state, in July, 1846. He became interested at once in the study of the principles and literature of the Order, and devoted all his spare time in preparing himself for whatever duties might devolve upon him as a student and teacher of Masonry. In his youth he received a liberal education and fitted himself as a geologist, but was unable to establish himself in that occupation, and followed other pursuits.

In 1850 he failed in business, and all his hopes for the future were blighted. The immediate cause of the disaster which overtook him, as related by himself, was on account of a crisis in the monetary system of the country, short crops, bills payable that must be paid, and bills receivable that could not be collected, false friends and—bankruptcy! He gave up all, and with a large family, clean hands, and a resolute heart, set out to find a spot in which to commence life anew. After trying various things without success, he decided to become a Masonic lecturer. From this date on until his death, his entire time, talents and energies were devoted to the preparation and dissemination of the Webb Ritual; the compilation and publication of a Universal Masonic Library, embracing in thirty large volumes the standard works on Masonry; the publication of a Masonic magazine; the writings of Masonic addresses, sketches, stories, and a volume of Masonic poems; the preparation and publication of annual Masonic almanacs; a republication of Webb's Monitor; an elaboration and systemization of the Adoptive Degrees of the Eastern Star, and in the discharge of other duties in the same direction too numerous to mention.

He was tall and slender of build; full, dark beard trimmed short; sparkling gray eyes; and that he was a man of great intelligence, a clear, keen and incisive writer on every subject he attempted to handle, an indefatigable worker, and a most genial, entertaining companion and associate, all can truly testify who were so fortunate as to know him personally. During one of his lecturing tours, shortly after he entered upon that occupation, a local paper made of him the following excellent pen picture:

"Lank as a rattlesnake, and quite as swift to strike; nervous as a silver poplar leaf, and almost as pale; dyspectic to the last degree of indigestion; full of wit, as an egg of meat; devoted to the science of Masonry, yet equally ready upon all subjects of science, from a star to a fossil star fish; a devourer of books; fluent as Niagara Falls and generous as the sea."

Masonry was his sole occupation. Out of it he was compelled to secure a sufficiency to support himself and family. Some who did not understand him thoroughly, or were not conversant with his surroundings and environments, were inclined to charge him with making use of Masonry for the money he could get out of it.

Knowing him personally and through a correspondence covering several years, the writer does not believe that he cared for money beyond what was necessary to provide a living for himself and family, and meet the obligations of his publication schemes. That he made no money out of his great services to the Institution is evidenced from the fact that he died penniless, everything—his library, Masonic collections, books, copyrights and electrotype plates having been swept away to secure money to pay debts incurred in pushing forward his various Masonic enterprises. Money with him came easy and went easy, and so long as creditors were not pressing him and he had enough to live on, he was happy as a lord.

In reply to criticism in regard to his making money out of Masonry, he wrote during the latter years of his life:

"As a matter of history, I must declare that I did not enter the Masonic pursuit from mercenary motives, and that it has been anything but a source of profit to me. During my life as a Freemason I have published the first work ever issued on Masonic law; the first Masonic history in this country; the first work upon Masonic Belles Letters in any country, and three editions of Webb's Monitor. I have composed or compiled nearly seventy works of a Masonic character; written a score of Masonic addresses; hundreds of Masonic odes and poems; visited more than two thousand Lodges, and delivered lectures innumerable. In all these labors, would it be strange if I had made some mistakes? For all my services as a Mason I have made but the poorest and most inadequate support for myself and family. I have necessarily neglected the education of my children and all

my home interests. At my time of life, when I ought to think of rest, I have the world to begin over, as I began it twenty-seven years ago. This is the pecuniary reward of my labors."

He was broken in health, without money or apparently friends, and it is not much to be wondered at that he became pessimistic, and in one of his gloomy moods wrote the following:

"The future of Masonry in this country is gloomy. The times indicate great changes. Masonry, for this generation has passed its meridian, and it demands, the best wisdom and strength of its votaries to preserve it from a serious decline. We look for the dissolution of most of those additions to Masonry (excrescences we fear they have proved) called the 'Higher Bodies,' and shall be mistaken if some of the Grand Lodges themselves are not dissolved for want of interest and support."

He adopted "Bob" as a prefix early in his Masonic career. The immediate cause of this was, he stated, a determination not any longer to be confounded with Robert Morris, the author and poet, of Philadelphia, of whom he for many years complained that whenever he wrote anything in prose or verse that was good, it was credited to the Philadelphia Morris, and whenever the Philadelphia Morris wrote anything more than ordinarily dull and flat, he got the discredit for it! To obviate this, and give each Morris his due, the change referred to was made.

In 1850 he arranged the degrees of the Eastern Star, communicating them first to his wife and subsequently to many thousands of Masons and their wives, daughters and sisters. The degrees were not printed in form until 1860. From the first the work contained the same characters as now and the signs and passes remain unaltered. From 1850 to 1855 the Order was without formal organization; the degrees being communicated, and the Order had no permanency until after 1876 from which time its growth has been steady and increasing every year.—*Pacific Mason.*

MASONIC PERIODICALS.

To Germany seems fairly to belong the honor of being the first in the field with Masonic journals. *Der Freimaurer*, by J. J. Schwabe was published in 1738, a weekly paper, B. C. Breitkopf, at Leipsic, and was followed in 1742 by *Der Bedachtige Freimaurer*, Hamburg, by Tr. Fr. Tentzel, 1742. In 1743, the *Aufmerksame Freimaurer* appeared at Gorlitz, and subsequently several others, purely Masonic, all mentioned by Kloss.

Many new Masonic journals also, beginning with the *Neue europaische Fama*, in 1737, and *Des europaische Staats Secretary*, 1740, contained articles relating to Freemasonry.

In England the first Masonic magazine was of 1793, and hardly a journal; and an English Masonic journal first quite late in this century, though the *Freemason*, published by Bro. George Kenning, worthily now upholds the fame of English Masonic journalism. Rue's Lists, official, but not journals seem to have begun in 1723. But although we had no English Masonic journal to boast of, many of the London papers alluded to Freemasonry, such as the *St. James Evening Post*, quoted lately by Bro. W. J. Higham, so early too as 1734; and probably later *excerpta* relating to Freemasonry may be discovered. The first official calendar, as we have said before, in England was 1777.

In France the first official journal seems to have been *Etat du Grand Orient de France*, in 1778; while the *Etrennes Interessantes* were published in 1797. There is, however, in the *St. James Evening Post*, dated from Paris, January 2, 1738, reprinted, what is the Paris letter, first published we believe, in the so-called "Secrets of Masonry," by S. P. Louden, 1737, as Brother Hugan points out, and which is also dated Paris, January 13, 1737. How far this is original or fictitious is not now very easy to say.

In Holland, the *Almanack des Franc Macons en Ecosse*, a la Haje, 1753, appears to be the first, though Kloss mentions *Almanack des Franc Macons et des Franches Maconnes en Ecosse, a la Hage*, 1753, and *Almanach des Frances Massons*, from 1759 to 1779, yearly. In Sweden in 1777 appeared at Stockholm, *Almrnach portatif pour l'Annee 1777, a l'usage des Societies qui assemblent dans l'Hotel F. M. au Rictdarholm a Stockholm.* The earliest American journal seems to have been *The Freemason Magazine and General Miscellany*, Philadelphia, 1811. According to Mackey, all the works mentioned above are not strictly Masonic journals, no doubt, though Masonic publications; and in France the first actual journal seems to have been the *Annals Masonniques*, in 1807. Indeed it is somewhat difficult to decide what is properly a journal, as in its strict meaning it is a daily paper. At the present moment journalism is well represented in the Old and New World. There are many excellent Masonic journals, such as the *Banhutte, Hanjal, Freemaurer* of Vienna, the *Acacia* and the *Colmena Masonica:* but now as in times past, Masonic journalism, to use a commercial expression, "does not pay."—*Kenning's Cyclopedia.*

BOSTON TEMPLE IN ASHES.

Boston Freemasonry has met with a serious misfortune in the burning of the magnificent Masonic Temple which took place on Saturday forenoon, 7th inst. The fire was discovered by a passer-by at 10:05, and a few moments later an alarm was given from box 53, noted as being located in one of the most dangerous fire districts in the city. By an unfortunate blunder in sending in the alarm the fire department were late in arriving, and the flames had gathered great headway before water was laid on. An investigation shows that above the second floor the Temple is practically destroyed, while considerable damage was caused at the rear of the building on the second floor. The library, one of the most valuable in the country, and the museum of relics on the second floor escaped serious damage. All of the regalia rooms on the third floor were scorched and their contents, the regalias of many of the commanderies, were destroyed. Gothic hall, Egyptian hall, and the red room were badly damaged with their costly decorations. A number of the valuable paintings in these rooms were saved.

The building was almost completely destroyed, and was one of the finest in the country. The loss will approximate closely to $150,000, on which there was an insurance of some $75,000. Twenty-six lodges, chapters, councils and commanderies occupied the building, and the Scottish Rite bodies lose all their expensive furniture and paraphernalia, the finest in America. The loss on regalias alone will reach $50,000 The origin of the fire is unknown, and while THE TYLER does not wish to cast unfounded suspicion on any body of people the fact of incendiarism is very apparent. Masonic Temples and "little red school houses" stand in about the same relation to a large portion of Boston population, and the late Templar demonstration in that city was a hard mouthful to swallow.—*Tyler.*

THE CABLE-TOW.

Whatever may be the interpreted meaning of its length, no real Freemason will stop at its length in a brother's cause. Progressive Masonic Science does not measure it by common meets and bounds, but boldly and gladly extends its length to the utmost limit of ability. Doing all that human hand and sympathy can do to lighten the sorrows incident to a brother's need. To-day the Masonic cable-tow is endless and belts the great round globe, enclosing in its beneficent effort every brother and all mankind.

THE LODGES.

GRAND LODGES MEET.

Iowa, Boone, June 2, 1896.

We hear good reports from the lodges at Hopkinton, Maxwell, Boone and Unionville, notwithstanding the hot weather.

The beautiful Temple in Marion is now almost under cover and it is hoped to have it ready for dedication by December 27, next.

The Temple in this city is going grandly. The foundation will be laid this fall and the completion thereof will be an event of 1896.

The Cedar Rapids lodges have been conferring degrees right along through the summer. The Masters Evans and Cogswell are hustlers.

A personal note from Bro. G. B. Van Saun informs us that he expects to furnish us with his official itinerary for the coming year as usual. So mote it be Bro. G. C.

The new Masonic hall at Alden was formally dedicated August 9, with appropriate ceremonies. The occasion was a notable one in the history of local Masonry and a large number of visiting brothers from adjoining towns participated in the event.

GENERAL THANKSGIVING.

To V. W. Bro. C. W. Noteware, Grand Secretary, Carson City, Nev., for the Proceedings of his Grand Lodge for 1895.

MRS. GIL. W. BARNARD.

To thousands of Masons throughout the country the announcement that the wife of our widely known and greatly beloved brother, Gil. W. Barnard, had passed away, will come with sad effect. She died August 11, at their home in Chicago. May the Almighty be thy strength and support, dear brother.

HISTORY OF THE GRAND LODGE ORGANIZATIONS.

The history of the Grand Lodge organizations, from the first one in 1717, up to the present time, is a very curious one. We have taken the trouble to trace up as far as we could, the details of a large number, and the following is the result:

After the organization in 1717, which did not include all lodges, the very next was that of the single old lodge of York, constituting itself into a Grand Lodge in 1725. The Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1729-'30 was organized by a convocation of Masons. There is no evidence that any chartered lodges were represented, or that any lodges in Ireland had charters.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland was organized in 1837, by thirty-two lodges only being represented, out of over one hundred which had been invited to be present by representatives.

The seceding brethren in England, with others, organized the Grand Lodge, subsequently called the Ancients, in 1739. In 1747, the Provincial Grand Lodge at Copenhagen, Denmark, was established by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, but very soon thereafter declared itself independent.

The Grand Lodge of France, instituted 1736 under the Grand Lodge of England, in 1756 detached itself from that Grand Lodge. In 1756 a part only of the lodges in the Netherlands constituted a Grand Lodge at the Hague. In 1770 the Grand Lodge of the United Provinces, with some lodges sitting at the Hague, proclaimed itself the National Grand Lodge of Holland and compelled all the others to come under its obedience. The Grand Lodge of England, in 1773, by its letters patent, organized the Grand Lodge of Germany. What would be thought of such letters patent at this day?

"After the separation of Belgium from Holland in 1831, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Brussels, becoming isolated from the Grand Orient of Holland, invited by circular dated December 19, 1832, all the lodges of the new kingdom to reorganize it as an independent authority, to unite under its recognition, and to send up their delegates to a general assembly, convoked for the 25th of February, 1833. Only four lodges were represented, but the delegates nevertheless decided to declare the Provincial Grand Lodge of the lower countries dissolved, and to constitute in its place a Grand Orient of Belgium."

The new authority succeeded in uniting under its jurisdiction all the other lodges except four, which last were declared irregular and were so considered by all the Masonic powers. * * * * *

We confess that there seems to be something anomalous in the whole subject of Grand Lodge organizations. Prior to the first Grand Lodge, 1717, no charters existed. No obligation to obey the constitutions, rules, regulations and edicts of a Grand Lodge were to be enforced. The creation of a Grand Lodge, and the subsequent obligation on the part of those chartered under it, changed the prescriptive and inherent immemorial rights of lodges and members thereof. "Constitutional Regulations," adopted in 1722 and published in 1723, changed entirely the Masonic world. It was a revolution.

The history of Masonry as we have sketched it above shows conclusively that there has been no well defined law or usage for the formation of Grand Lodges. Chartered lodges have, without the consent of mother Grand Lodges, constantly formed themselves into Grand bodies, and are now well recognized by all Masonic powers. In many instances a minority of the lodges within the jurisdiction have formed these Grand Lodges and compelled the majority to join with them or to be pronounced irregular.—*Tyler.*

CUSTODIAN'S SCHOOLS.

We aim to keep standing the regular appointments of the Grand Custodian, Brother Geo. B. Van Saun, and we shall have his corrections each month.

Dear Brother Geiger:

The season for active work is now fast approaching, and soon I will be on my pilgrimage to impart Masonic instruction to the best of my ability, as in the years past. I am more and more convinced of the importance of the work committed to my hands, and regret exceedingly that I have so little ability to perform its requirements, but will endeavor to do the best I can in my humble way. Invitations have been received from the following places up to the present writing, viz.: Elkader, Logan, Akron, Thayer, Lynnville, Ossian, Hazleton, Riverside, Ames, Sheldon, Hawarden, Atalissa, Laurens, Grinnell and Shenandoah.

The following routes have been made, and if satisfactory to the lodges interested, will be filled:

Riverside, October 8 and 9.
Hazleton, October 16 and 17.
Elkader, 21, 22 and 23.
Lynnville, November 4 and 5.
Atalissa, October 10 and 11.
Ossian, October 18 and 19.
Grinnell, November 1 and 2.

GEO. B. VAN SAUN, V. C.

AN OLD PERIODICAL.

In the Masonic Library at Cedar Rapids is a very old periodical. We find a fly-leaf note "very rare and valuable, probably the first Masonic journal published." The name of this ancient magazine is, *Der Fremaurer, Das erste Stuck*, Leipsig, Sonnabends, den 4, Jenner 1738. It gives the fifty-two numbers for the year 1738.

The Pacific Mason, Seattle, Wash.; $1 per year; monthly; E. B. Wishaar, Publisher. This new, or rather, revived journal comes "devoted to the interests of the fraternity within the jurisdiction of Alaska, Washington, British Columbia, Oregon, Montana, Idaho and Nevada." It is a well made and interesting journal and deserves to succeed. We bid it welcome.

APARTMENT HOUSE, TEMPLAR PARK, SPIRIT LAKE, IOWA.

COMMANDERIES.

CONCLAVES.

Grand Encampment, Pittsburg, Pa., Oct. 1898.
Iowa Grand, Templar Park, July 14, 1896.
Illinois Grand, Springfield, April 21, 1896

Hon. Sir W. I. Babb, P. G. C., of Iowa has been nominated for Governor by his democratic brethren of this state.

Patmos Commandery, Marion, took a vacation during July and August, but will stir up the lines now that the summer is past.

The thirteenth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery (colored) Knights Templar, Iowa-Illinois jurisdiction, closed at Davenport, Ia., Aug. 15, with the election of the following officers: Grand Commander, J. S. Murray, Springfield, Ill.; Deputy Grand Commander, H. Graham, Chicago; Grand Generalissimo, C. S. Stewart, Des Moines; Grand Captain, Gen. W. Donagan, Springfield; Prelate, A. Horne, Chicago; Treasurer, B. S. Harris, Chicago; Recorder, G. C. Hinton, Springfield; Inspector, R. E. Moore, Chicago. Des Moines was chosen as the next place of meeting.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT.

To describe all the incidents of interest connected with this highest body of Knights Templar assembled in its Twenty-sixth Triennial Conclave would be impossible in a single number of this journal. To devote all the attention of description to our splendid train enroute would surpass our intended modesty so we content ourselves with saying that all the Knights and ladies from the glorious west, arrived safely in the "hub" city, by Monday evening and settled in various private residences, clustered around Iowa headquarters, at 527, 529 Massachusetts Avenue. The first great event was

THE PARADE.

This took place on Tuesday morning, August 27th, and was variously estimated at from 22,000 to 35,000 Knights in line with 750,000 persons to view the long and wearisome march. We were called out at 8:30 a. m., and after marching to the allotted division in the line, we stood waiting until 3:00 p. m., before the call came to move. We have decided to keep out all criticisms from this report, so, this, with all other annoying features incident to such a gathering shall be left undisturbed. It was the largest parade ever given by the Grand Encampment of the United States. Receptions and visits were the feature of each evening. Sight seeing and shore dinners were the events of each day. The Grand Encampment began its sessions on Tuesday afternoon, following the parade.

Wednesday morning the Grand Master read his address.

At the after session—General Lawrence and Dr. Drummond were appointed to the Committee on Jurisprudence, Vice Sirs Frizell and Routs, deceased.

Two decisions of the Grand Master on Templar Law called out considerable discussion, no action was reached further than to refer the matter back to the proper committee.

The question of the place of the next Conclave has raised a great deal of discussion and it now looks as though the Triennial Conclave will be held in Pittsburg, Pa., in 1898.

THURSDAY.

The election of officers and the selection of the next place of meeting occupied this day's proceedings generally.

THE OFFICERS.

Grand Master—Warren La Rue Thomas of Maysville, Ky.

Deputy Grand Master—Reuben A. Lloyd of San Francisco.

Generalissimo—H. B. Stoddard, of Texas.

Captain General—G. M. Moulton, of Illinois.

G. S. W.—H. W. Rugg, of Massachusetts.

G. J. W.—W. B. Melish, of Ohio.

Grand Recorder—W. H. Mayo, of St. Louis.

Grand Treasurer—H. Wales Lines, of Conn.

Pittsburg was selected as the place, and the second Tuesday in October 1898, as the time for the next Triennial Conclave.

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

Prelate—Cornelius Twing, New York.

Standard Bearer—F. O. Morris of Tenn.

Sword Bearer—E. S. Dudley, of Neb.

Warden—Jos. A. Locke, of Maine.

Captain of the Guard—F. H. Thomas, Washington.

FRIDAY.

This day witnessed the final business and installation of the above Grand Officers. Headquarters began to close, decorations were taken down, and the Templar host turned to the westward to seek once more the quiet of their own asylums.

IOWA.

The Grand Commandery of Iowa resided in great quiet during the Conclave. Four trains brought us to this great city—but our return will be unnoticed, as we scatter and come homeward, as the sweet whim of visiting and resting may dictate. Fortunately the health of the Iowans was good and we think all had a good time. During the Conclave week, Bruce Commandery of Red Oak, received right royally at their headquarters at Upton street. They showed excellent taste in the exhibition of Iowa corn and Iowa apples.

RE-ATTACHING DEGREES.

Quite frequently some good brother gets a notion that he has discovered the incongruity of the present arrangement of the degrees or orders in some one or other of the Masonic bodies. His zeal naturally leads him to insist upon the to him much needed changes, which he does not know would be simply a reattachment when done his way. In the long past, not time out of mind by any means, all there were, were conferred under Blue Lodge sanction, including Knights Templar. It might be that the Past Master's degree should be elsewhere—where?

The Red Cross Council may be an "old dispensation" affair and unadapted to the Order of the Temple, which is under the same classification a "new dispensation Order" but who knows a branch of the ritualistic work in Masonry so smooth and perfect that some apparent offset does not appear. A better way might be to compare it with some other orders whose effort to evolve degrees has led them to introduce yet more incongruities than we ever saw in Masonry. While we think the arrangement might be bettered, we want to see no undue haste to jumble confounded confusion into worse confounding. Don't re-attach too hastily until the history is thoroughly mastered.

"The Keystone" publishes from "The Mallett, in Glasgow Evening News, the following of great interest: "On Saturday, 29th, July, about three o'clock, the foundation stone of the old Lodge was discovered. We found that it had been laid in the south-east corner of the building, being the first stone laid. The stone measures 22x18½ inches, and was quarried from the Stevenson Quarry. In the stone we found a brass plate, oval in shape, about nine inches over all in size. The inscription on the plate is in Latin, the translation reads as follows: (Under the guidance and auspices of the Right Worshipful Archibald Earl of Eglinton, and of his Deputy, John Allan, etc, etc, Masonry revived, and the Ancient and Primal Lodge of Master Masons of Kilwinning rebuilt foundations, laid on the 24th day of March, 1779, and of Masonry, 5779.)

The stone I am further informed, was taken possession of by the Secretary, Bro. Laurence and Mattheson, in accordance with instructions from the Lodge. This refers to the old Kilwinning Lodge No. O.

THE ROYAL ARCH.

CONVOCATIONS.

General Grand (U. S.) Baltimore, Md., ———, 1897.
Iowa Grand, Dubuque, Sept. 26, 1895.
Nebraska, Omaha, Dec. 11, 1895.

The Chapter in Dubuque held a session Monday, Aug. 5, from 4 to 10 p. m., and conferred all the degrees from Mark to R. A. That's Dubuque for you—always up and coming.

DUBUQUE INVITES US.

Companions:

For the fourth time since the organization of Royal Arch Masonry in Iowa, Dubuque Chapter No. 3 has extended a welcome to the Grand Chapter to assemble within "Our Gates."

Dubuque, at the time of the first convocation of the Grand Chapter, held here in 1859, was a small mining town of a few hundred souls, but was the principal city in the west. Being such, many "weary travelers" would "sit down here to rest and refresh themselves," while on their "rough and rugged road," to the plains and mountains beyond. Of those who were laboring "in the quarries" at that time, many have passed within the "Inner Vail," and but few are left to "repair" each day with the Companions "to resume their labors;" others have not been idle, but have taken up their "working tools" and "labored long and faithfully," and have been rewarded by knowing their work has not been "rejected," and have seen Royal Arch Masonry in Iowa grow from infancy to full manhood.

"*Veni, Vidi, Vici.*"

Again we extend a "three-times-three" welcome, and bid you all come to our now prosperous city—Dubuque.

O. S. Mahon.

THANKS.

To M. E. Companion L. G. Levoy, P. G. H. P., for the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of South Dakota for 1895. A beautiful souvenir copy it is.

THE COUNCILS.

We desire in this department to give such information as we may be able from time to time, of work in the "Cryptic Degrees." We have room here for the discussion of the present manner of working these degrees in connection with the Chapters, and whether or not we should affiliate with the General Grand Council.

ACTION NEEDED.

We do not hesitate to say that the Council degrees are largely slighted in Iowa, and that the only cause we have been able to discover thus far is their attachment to the Chapters. Just as long as we can go on joining non-Masonic fraternities at the rate we are now doing, we believe we can afford to have the Councils separate. As heretofore asserted, we have no gnawing anxiety about this matter, but we do hate to be looked upon as clandestine in any sense of the word. Then too, Iowa, Masonically, can afford to be up even with the front rank in any branch of Masonic industry. Companions, we devote space to this department because we have the opinion that the S. V. should no longer be reached via Robin Hood's barn, but direct and under the authority of the Grand Council of Iowa, affiliated with the General Grand Council of the United States of America. There, now!

THE EASTERN STAR.

GRAND BODIES MEET.

Iowa Grand Chapter, Charles City, October 23-24, 1895.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

This body opened for business in Triennial session on Thursday, August 29. The addresses of welcome, and of the officers occupied most of the first day's session.

The retiring Grand Matron was presented with a handsome solid Boston tea service set.

The salary of Mrs. Pitkin, the efficient Grand Secretary was increased to $1,000 a worthy compliment to a loveable lady.

A testimonial gift of $1,000 was made to Mrs. Snedden.

The present membership is about 119,000.

The officers for the next three years are as follows:

Grand Matron—Mrs. Mary E. Partridge
Grand Patron—H. H. Hinds.
Associate Matron—Hattie E. Ewing.
Associate Patron—N. A. Gearhart.
Conductress—Laura B. Hart.
Grand Secretary—Mrs. Loraine J. Pitkin.
Treasurer—Mrs. H. A. Erkanbrack.

We are sorry not to have been able to give a more full and complete report of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter, but please remember the limited means at our command and hope with us for more attention in the future.

The young Chapters at Marion and Cedar Rapids continue to promise a splendid growth, not so rapid but safe.

From a marked copy of the *Capital* of Des Moines, we learn that about 100 members of the order were delightfully entertained with a lawn party by Mrs. Emma Evans of 1428 West Ninth street. Illuminations grand, decorations beautiful, entertainment, music, autograph contest and refreshments—a great success.

A. A. S. R.

The consistory at Lyons will hold a convention early in October we hear.

Notice is served of the bodies of Oriental Consistory, Chicago, on September 12, 19, 20 and 26, and Oct. 3 and 10.

The Lodge of Perfection at Cedar Rapids has work for this fall and likely the Consistory there will be greatly revived by the prospects of the early completion of their Temple.

COLGUHOUN ON TEMPLARY.

"A concise history of the order of the Temple with some mention of these bodies which claim to be derived from it by Sir Patrick Colguhoun M. A., L. L. D., O. C., published by R. Hill & Co., Bedford, 1878.

The author reviews the history of the Crusade, and the story of the ancient Templars with evident determination to discredit the possibility of any lineal decent from them of Modern Orders.

He holds that the Templary practiced in the U. S. of North America, derived their system from England: that our organization rather resembles that of a volunteer corps: the members dressed in uniform and subject to strict discipline.

This history also conveys the information that the Kilwinning Lodge of Dublin, originally warranted by the Mother Kilwinning in Ayrshire for the practice of the Craft degrees in 1770, was importing numerous "black" warrants, under which the Royal Arch was also conferred, and to meet this competition, in concurrent jurisdiction (?) some 30 charters were granted by the Lodge of Kilwinning, among which were two in America, at Essex and Falmouth, Virginia, issued between 1729 and 1803.

He closes the work in these words, "Let us therefore rather congratulate ourselves on the facts as they stand, and dismissing as unworthy, all dishonest attempts to make it appear that which it is not—that which no perversion of history can ever render it; rather reject antecedants, and congratulate ourselves on the possession of an institution relieved of social abominations, and political iniquities by a traitorous officer, whose treason we accept as our most valuable possession."

Ancient Craft Masons commence their era with the creation of the world, calling it Anno Lucis (A. L.), "in the year of light."

THE FREEMASON AND THE FEZ.

Published Monthly

In the interest of Freemasonry and the Mystic Shrine in North America.

JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER, K. T., 32°, EDITOR.

Entered in the postoffice at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, as second class mail matter.

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DATE FOR COPY:—To insure notice in the current Number, all copy must reach the Editor by the 3d of the month at latest. Postal card notices of current news from all bodies are desired.

THE MASONIC PUBLISHING CO.,
No. 38 First Avenue, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, SEPTEMBER, 1895.

UNIVERSAL MASONRY.

If we are intelligently taught that Masonry is a progressive science, and that its evolution in all its varied parts is from an original compact unity, and as the easily corroborated history clearly proves every grade and degree owes its beginning to the foundation principles, then we may safely assume that the latest development exhibits not degeneration but progress. Our minds are often perplexed at the reckless assault made upon one and another branch made from within, by those who have assumed voluntarily the various vows prescribed. This cannot proceed from any deep acquaintance with the original tenets of Masonry. No man ever attacks the farthest divergent ray of its widely reflected light because he knows so much about it; but rather because he has learned so little. The ancient constitutions no matter what their age, make a strong point when they characterize the atheist as stupid. So we may safely assume for the one who recklessly attacks the later and higher growths of this universal Masonry a measure of stupidity similar in kind though different in manifestation. The practice of Concordant and concessional recognition, without assuming ability to judge of the methods of men now departed, is at once reasonable and sensible. All allied societies else go unquestioned in the assumption of such prerogatives and by their majorities command the respect of the intelligent, as having done the only thing to prevent discord and confusion. With our limited experience, yet somewhat to speak of after all, we claim for this universal and progressive science its rightful place as a united whole. This too in Symbolic, Capitular, Cryptic, Templar, and Scottish rites, wherever dispersed and harmonious the World over.

NOTHING SERIOUS.

We have noticed how frequently our contemporaries have evidenced an undercurrent of objection to the Order of the Mystic Shrine. They evince it sometimes merely by an inferential phrase, or the putting of a title to a quotation; but the meaning is self evident. We do not think we are wiser than our fellows, so we assume that they all do as we do—laugh at the harmless fusilade—and go right on studying the history and teachings of the Order. It is all gratuitous to urge that the Holy Bible has no place on our altar, (for it is there, and is the first brought to view) and most of the other objections are either taken from local sources or are fictitious and uncalled for. We have before urged, that where local abuses obtain, that they should be cried down, but do not raise a hue and cry against the whole Order because forsooth, some particular Temple may do things the fellow outside does not approve of.

We acknowledge with thanks the invitation of the Masonic Veteran Association of Illinois to be present at their reception to the Venerable Chief of the Ancient Freemasons Society, M. W., Brother John Corson Smith and daughter, on their return from their journey around the world. Being at the Imperial Council N. M. S., Sept. 2, we could not attend.

"UNCHARITABLE LEGISLATION."

Our contemporary "The Trestle Board" of San Francisco, presents, under the above heading certain views for which we wish only a fair understanding for Iowa's real position. No man is ever suspended in this jurisdiction for *inability* to pay dues. In all such cases they are remitted. The getting back or re-instatement of those suspended for non-payment of dues, is not subject to as great a hardship as the profane. A two-thirds majority does it. The "three hundred dollar case" is an extreme one. By the new law, both these classes are not "*forever* excluded from the friendship and brotherly love of those who are able to pay." The re-instatement of a brother suspended for non-payment of dues, if within one year, paying what was due at the time of suspension, is without a vote of the lodge, upon the declaration of the W. M.; if beyond one year, then, pay the dues to the date of suspension, he petitions the lodge, and is re-instated upon a majority vote at next stated meeting being favorable." On such petition there need be no recommendation, nor committee of investigation appointed. Dues paid with a view to re-instatement, are returned in case of rejection. Under our law no man could fall in arrears anywhere near three hundred dollars if he tried. Of course suspension for unmasonic conduct entails more stringent requirements, and so it ought. No dues are charged against a suspended Mason in Iowa.

THE ANCIENT ORDER.

Whoever is interested to look back through the musty and aged tombs of history will find himself drawn to the like comparative conclusions that he would make under any other subject of study. His delightful wanderings would bring him through the Egyptian mysteries to be deeply impressed with their three degrees of initiation and their likeness to the degrees of Masonry as they are now except for their adaptations to their differing and enlightened conditions. So might he discover everywhere the strong likeness to this noble institution of ours as his eyes feasted upon the pages of history. We have no superstition against whatever age the research of historians may deem proper for Freemasonry, but we have a just pride in the strong presumptive evidence of its age. With the increased interest in research that characterizes our times, we look for advantages from closer study and and better acquaintance with its history. Freemasonry was an institution aptly filling an important place in the world so long ago that no storm of opposition can now easily destroy it.

HARMONY.

In the construction of any great building, or the carrying out of any enterprise, it is all important that the workmen respect the duly appointed leadership of those who measure and lay out their work. The cunning workman in metals, may not know how to dress the stone that is to become the head of the corner and the bearer of burdens, cannot perform, untaught, either. Peace and harmony are only possible when all unite to do their several parts with fervancy and zeal. Time spent in wrangling among workmen, will mar the beauty and retard the work of the building. Acts and words of violence, will cause harm and create memories that time cannot efface, not to speak of energies wasted for naught. The valuable mysteries, promised, can only be important when the work is all finished, and these accredited with their holding are together. Once lost, they are forever hidden. All after search may be in vain and the murdered past cannot be raised up. "Let brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us. Amen."

Mohammed Temple of Peoria, Ill., holds a meeting Tuesday, October 8th.

...The FEZ....

Devoted to the Interests of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine in North America.

APARTMENT HOUSE, TEMPLAR PARK, SPIRIT LAKE, IOWA.

THE FEZ.

TRIBAL GATHERINGS.

Imperial Council, Cleveland, Ohio, June 16, 1896.
El Kahir, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, (Annual) Dec. 11, 1895.
Eldora, Oct. 2, 1895.
Perry, Oct. 22, 1895.
Kaaba, Davenport, Iowa. Annual.

IMPERIAL COUNCIL.

OFFICERS FOR 1895-6.

CHAS L. FIELD.....IMPERIAL POTENTATE
San Francisco, Cal.
J. T. Brush.....Imperial Deputy Potentate
Indianapolis, Indiana.
Harrison Dingman.....Imperial Chief Rabban
Washington, D. C.
Ed. R. Harris.....Imperial Assistant Rabban
Detroit, Michigan.
Ethelbert F. Allen.....Imperial Oriental Guide
Kansas City, Missouri.
William S. Brown.....Imperial Treasurer
Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.
BENJAMIN W. ROWELL.....IMPERIAL RECORDER
Boston, Massachusetts.
Wm. H. S. Wright.....Imperial I Ceremonial Master
St. Paul, Minnesota.
Thomas J. Bishop.....Imperial II Ceremonial Master
Albany, New York.
R. M. Johnson.....Imperial Marshal
Chicago, Ill.
John H. Atwood.....Imperial Captain of Guard
Leavenworth, Kansas.
Horace K. Blanchard.....Imperial Outer Guard
Providence, Rhode Island.

Members ad Vitam:

1 Walter M. Fleming, New York.
2 Sam Briggs, Cleveland, Ohio.
3 William B. Melish, Cincinnati, Ohio.
4 Thomas J. Hudson, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Members Emeritus.

1 Albert Rawson, New York.
2 Charles W. Torey, New York.
3 George O. Tyler, Burlington, Vermont.
4 Charles T. McClenachan, New York.

THE IMPERIAL COUNCIL.

This important fraternal meeting was located for this year at Nantasket Beach, Mass., a place on the coast contiguous to Boston and hence convenient to follow the great Triennial Conclave of Templars.

The Nobles began to fill the Rockland House with cheery laughter and happy greetings as early as Friday afternoon, August 30.

The committees were at work as early as Saturday and Monday morniug, Sept. 2, found the machinery of the Council ready for the touching of the button by the Imperial Potentate and its startlng upon the twenty-fifth Imperial Session by this body.

IMPERIAL BUSINESS.

The opening of the Council was effected at 10 a. m. and Noble Sanders, of Aleppo, extended a welcome to the Council and the Imperial Potentate responded suitably.

A banquet for Tuesday evening was planned and a ride for the ladies was announced for Monday afternoon.

The roll was called and a quorum being present business was proceeded with.

The absence of the Deputy Imperial Potentate and the death of the Imperial Assistant Rabban caused a vacancy in the Imperial Divan—No appointment was made to fill the places pro tem.

The Imperial Potentate read his annual address—it was an exhaustive review of the whole field of the year past.

The charitable donations of the Temples the past year amount to almost $15,000.

The present membership of the order is over 40,000. A net gain was made of over 6100 in the past year.

Attention was called to the criticisms made upon the publication in our notices for meetings of such matters as are intended to cause offense. This we believe has not been a general practice and a lone, or very seldom thing in special cases. We Nobles are still gentlemen. The criticisms that come from without will do us no harm and the reformation within will savor of life the more.

The Imperial Recorder read his annual report:

Receipts—total—$15,414 27. Since the close of the Imperial year (A. W.) $,798.00.

Various dispensations were issued.

The committee on doings of Imperial Officers reported.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2:15 the committee on Finance and Accounts reported.

Total paid out to April 30, 1895, $6,626,-51.

$1000 was appropriated for the use of the Imperial Potentate.

The salary of the Imperial Recorder was made $2000 including office and clerical expense, engrossing diplomas, etc.

The mileage was made five cents per mile one way and the per diem was made $10 per day for two days.

The committee on Grievance and Appeals reported there were no appeals—no body had been grieved—and were discharged.

Committee on Charters and Dispensations reported and charters were granted to Rockford, Ill.; Rawlins, Wyo.; Wilkesbarre, Pa. and Charlotte, N. C.

The committee on Jurisprudence reported on the question of jurisdiction between Kaaba and El-Kahir Temples. The committee recommended the changing of jurisdiction to concurrent. A motion was made to lay over for one year, which was lost. It was then quite unanimously voted to make the jurisdiction concurrent.

Various amendments to the Imperial Constitution were presented by the committee, and while some obtained favor, more suffered defeat.

The By-Laws of various subordinate temples were approved in part or as a whole.

Adjournment was had until 8 p. m., when the election of officers was made the order.

EVENING SESSION—THE ELECTION.

The main business of the evening was the election of Imperial Officers. The spirit of harmony ceemed to be in the conduct of this sometimes trying ordeal. The officers for the ensuing year are:

Imperial Potentate—Chas. L. Field, of San Francisco.

Deputy—J. T. Brush, of Indiana.

Chief Rabban—Harrison Dingman, of Washington, D. C.

Assistant Rabban—E. R. Harris, of Michigan.

High Priest—A. B. McGaffey, of Colorado.

Oriental Guide—E. F. Allen, of Missouri.

Treasurer—W. S. Brown, of Pennsylvania.

Recorder—B. W. Rowell, of Boston.

First C. M.—W. H. S. Wright, of St. Paul.

Second C. M.—T. J. Bishop of Albany.

Marshall—R. M. Johnson of Chicago.

Captain of Guard—John H. Atwood of Kansas

Outer Guard—H. K. Blanchard of R. I.

A complimentary resolution was passed to the Imperial Potentate (retiring) W. B. Melish and constituting Syrian Temple the representative to procure a Past Imperial Potentate's Jewell and such other testimonials as they desire not to exceed an expense of $1,000.

The Committe on necrology reported, recommending a memorial page for the deceased members of the Imperial Council.

FINAL SESSION.

The Imperial Council took up the report of the committee on Articles of Incorporation This question has been one of some concern for some time past. The committee offered a resolution to reject the Articles of Incorporation procured through the legislature of New York and that incorporation at this time is neither necessary nor desirable. The report was adopted.

The question of jurisdictional relations in different states was again brought up and Ahmed, one of the Michigan temples, asked exclusive jurisdiction for the upper peninsula of that state. A resolution to the above effect was offered and after discussion was referred to a committee to report next year.

A resolution to print 1000 copies of the Imperial Constitution and Laws and distribute ten copies to each temple was passed.

The application of Phœnex, Arizona, for a dispensation was not allowed and the fees were returned.

The committee on improper publications reported.

The Imperial Potentate was empowered to suspend potentates and officers of subordinate temples guilty of sending out improper notices. The report was adopted.

The official stenographer presented his resignation, which was accepted.

The Imperial Recorder was authorized to employ stenographer and the standing resolution creating the official stenographer was rescinded.

A resolution of thanks to Aleppo Temple was voted standing, amid many expressions of appreciation.

A resolution calling in the official jewels of the Imperial officers and putting them in the custody of the Imperial Recorder was passed.

A resolution making Ontario the jurisdiction of Rameses Temple and throwing other provinces contiguous to the United States open as concurrent territory.

The committee on time and place of next meeting reported invitations from San Francisco and Cleveland. Cleveland, O., was selected. The time was fixed for the third Tuesday in June, 1896.

Committee on mileage and per diem reported total mileage, $9,184.59.

The Ontario resolution was reconsidered and then referred to the same committee as the Michigan matter.

The Imperial Treasurer's jewel was found to be lost and the Imperial Recorder was ordered to procure another.

The Imperial officers were installed.

Council closed.

CAMEL TRACKS.

THE Imperial Council goes to Cleveland, next year! Sam Brigg's City and we opine that they will give us Lake Erie, if we want it.

THE value of this Journal to the Nobility, will be much as it finds the patrons want it, in all fair matters, but it will never take up controverted questions.

AMONG THE TEMPLES.

HELLA, Dallas, comes before us twice in this number; the latest meeting was on September 19, for business only.

ARARAT, Kansas City, Mo., went to Ringling's Circus on September 16, and they had a good time. Seats were reserved for the nobles.

BALLUT ABYAD, Albuquerque, N. M., held a session of their temple September 18, and had the usual entertainments accompanying.

EL KAHIR, Cedar Rapids, goes doubly armed for the unbelievers and novices at Eldora on October 2d. They will go to Perry October 22.

HELLA, Dallas, Texas, held a meeting August 15th. Their Temple project promises to go, notwithstanding the few who "talk through their turbans."

RAJAH, Reading, Penn., had September 11, booked for a ceremonial meeting; we tried to be there, but found that we missed connections by five minutes. Rajah is all right and a coming.

EL-JEBEL, Denver, Colorado, to judge from their notice for August 12, nothing was left undone to give satisfaction to every sense in their ceremonies, prior to going to Boston and Nantasket.

EL KATIF, Spokane, Wash., gets out a unique little notice in the form of a four-column four-page newspaper filled with announcements of their "extra session" of September 11th, and other general matter.

EL-RAID, Sioux Falls, S. D., presents a panoramic notice of their next projected meeting to be held October 3, 1895, (the next day after El-Kahir goes to Eldora.) No doubt some fine enjoyments will be found at Sioux Falls, on the third of October.

RAMESES, Toronto, Canada, deserves the thanks of every noble who passed through the Dominion for their effort to extend the hospitality of their city to the pilgrims to Boston and Nantasket.

ARARAT, fearing neither the torrid sun of midsummer nor the arid plains of Missouri, held high carnival on August 14th, to whet their appetites for Boston and Nantasket by putting to the test a number of candidates.

LULA, Phil., Pa., is up on base ball, September had two games booked, one for September 14, with Kismet, of Brooklyn, and one for September 23, with Boumi, of Baltimore. Reports not in. Casualties not enumerated. More anon. Lu-Lu, will do!

THE RULERS OF THE SULTAN.

Rightly to understand the vacillation and temporizing of Turkey over the demand of the Powers that she adopt sweeping administrative reforms, one needs to know something of the absurd and complicated system by which that country is governed. Nominally the Sultan is an absolute despot. In reality he is so terrorized by a clique of corrupt and fanatical "high-priests" of Islam and so-called advisers who infest the palace, that there is hardly a command which he issues of his own free will. The "Sublime Porte" which figures so frequently in the dispatches has little actual control of affairs. A report of its deliberations is transmitted weekly to the palace, and there is submitted to the decision, ostensibly of the Sultan, really of these ignorant and unscrupulous sheikhs of Islam.

Abdul Hamid the Second, like his predecessors, maintains his power by virtue of holding the office of Kaliph of the Islamic world or vicegerent of Mohammed. His hold upon this title is made insecure both from the fact that it was usurped from the Arabs by the early Sultans, and that he himself gained it by means of a plot of these same religious leaders, who deposed his predecessor, Murad, and made him kaliph in his stead. By holding over the Sultan the terror of a similar desposition, which threatens his life as well as his office, these parasites have thus been able to bleed the state of large sums by which they have grown wealthy and to block all efforts for reform. Their one object is, not to improve the government or to purify religion, but to intrench themselves firmly in power so that they may continue to fatten themselves at the cost of the misery and oppression of the people.

It is not difficult to see, therefore, why it is next to impossible to force the government to any measure of reform. The Sultan is a weak but kindly disposed man who takes no pleasure in the misery of his subjects. But such reforms as those prepared by England, Russia and France, which propose to place Christian governors and vice-governors in the provinces of Turkey east of Sivas, and to increase the number of Christian judges in proportion to the number of Christian inhabitants in any district, is a direct blow at the power of these rascally adventurers which they may be relied upon to resist to the end. Their stock in trade is the perpetuation of the sway of Islam, which they seek to accomplish by fomenting these religious strifes and massacres. To bring about reforms is little less than to dethrone this corrupt priesthood which would amount practically to a revolution.

Turkey has not resisted progress from mere sloth and indifference, but because of this powerful and determined opposition. But both the internal rage against it on the part of the down-trodden people, and the attitude of the great Powers give promise that its days are now few. The question is, whether this corrupt religio-political parasite can be torn off without destroying the life of the nation.—*Advance.*

EL-KAHIR TEMPLE.

As this Journal now reaches every Recorder in America each month, and goes into the hands of a large number of nobles regularly; we have decided to use this column for such official announcements as may be deemed necessary from time to itme.

JNO. W. GEIGER, Recorder.

MISSING NOBLES.

Somewhere amid the sandy wastes of the desert, the following members of El-Kahir have been lost, and as they are not in possession of Passports of good standing, Recorders of Temples will confer a favor if they will notify us whenever one turns up among his flock. Our own Nobles can aid us by giving information about either of the following:

NAMES.	LAST POST OFFICE.
Herbert L. Sill,	Chicago, Ill.
H. W. Flower,	Minneapolis, Minn
Edward N. Pickering,	Marshalltown, Ia.
Wm. L. Moore,	Iowa Falls, Iowa.
H. T. Lauderbach,	Vinton, Iowa.
Abner Graves,	Chicago, Ill.
G. S. Lister,	Marshalltown, Ia.
Dedrick Van Aken,	Bridgeport, Conn.

BUSINESS MEETING.

One of the Representatives, Noble W. J. Jameson, having notified the Recorder that he could not attend the coming session of the Imperial Council, a call was issued on August 15th for a meeting to be held at the Oasis of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, August 20, 1895, at 8 p. m.

At the hour appointed the Illustrious Assistant Rabban C. H. French opened the Temple and presided as Potentate.

Letters were read from Noble Jameson declining to attend the Imperial Council owing to business engagements, and from the Imperial Potentate informing us that it was necessary to call a regular meeting for the election of a Representative, as alternates were not recognized under the law. Both were placed on file.

The Potentate appointed Nobles M. M. Hall and Lew W. Anderson as tellers.

The ballot was prepared and on being counted Noble C. H. French having received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared elected as a Representative to the Imperial Council and the Recorder forwarded a properly certified notice of the same to the Imperial Recorder at Boston, Mass.

Edward Parker was appointed a committee to draft and forward proper resolutions of respect to Mrs. F. S. Morrell upon the death of her husband who was a member of this Temple.

Thirty-eight Nobles were present.

There being no other business, the Temple was closed.

Attest, JNO. W. GEIGER,
Recorder.

ELDORA MEETING.

Due notice is being served upon all Nobles and Novices that El Kahir will form a caravan to go via the B., C. R. & N. from Cedar Rapids at 9 a. m. on October 2, 1895, to Eldora, where a large class awaits our coming. Railroad rates a fare and a third.

PERRY MEETING.

The same notice as above contains like information of a ceremonial session at Perry, Iowa, on October 22, 1895. The caravan will leave Cedar Rapids via the C., M. & St. P. at about 7:45 a. m. Tickets on same terms. In both cases the return trip will be made so as to land the weary Nobles in Linn county early on the next morning.

BUY A NEW FEZ.

There are still a few of these fine imported fezes in the hands of the Recorder and if Nobles want to renew their head gear these are the best. Price, $3.50, carriage paid.

The Knights Templars & Masons Life Indemnity Co. wants an agent for every Masonic lodge in the state of Iowa. Address L. P. Bowes, General Agent, Eldora, Hardin Co., Iowa.

TOO HURRIED.

We do not believe that the representatives of the Imperial Council, will misunderstand us when we say that the Legislation of this body, is too hurriedly passed. We have no complaint to make and do not find fault, but it is a matter to be regretted all the same. When we remember that the interests of our constituency are entrusted to our keeping, it is none too much to ask that we give due attention and thought thereto. We trust that future councils will insist upon sufficient time being given to fully consider each important question that is to come before them, and that ample time will be especially given to get at all sides of every proposition to change or re-arrange the rules and regulations as we now have them.

REWARDING MERIT.

It is not always the deserving who are rewarded. The man who plans and works in the background, whose brain is taxed to devise ways and means to carry on to a successful termination any great enterprise, is frequently unknown, and others, who are only executing his plans, receive all the praise and all the glory and all the pay. The drudge in the rear modestly and patiently performing his task, looks for no greater reward than that produced by a sonsciousness of duty performed. He lies down and sleeps soundly, untroubled by reflections of violated obligations or unfaithful work. In all the walks of life we find this rule. The man who does much of the real work is unheard of. The pioneer prepares the way for the builder. He fells the timber and clears away the brush, without which the house could not be erected. But the pioneer is forgotten.

It happens, too, in society, that a man who is a willing servant of the many, who gives time and thought to the affairs of the society, is kept in a subordinate position and his merit is unrewarded. He plods along fulfilling every duty laid upon him and sees those who are not half as much interested in the work, who have given little time or thought to it, who are inferior to him intellectually, pass him in the march to preferment.

In the selection of officers for any Masonic body the qualifications of the man should be the first consideration. It is the body, not the man, whose interest is at stake. A man should not be elected even to fill a subordinate position with the promise of advancement unless he is competent to discharge the duties of the subordinate position, which are only preparatory. Officers who are faithful and earnest ought not to be carried to within a step of coveted honors without being rewarded, unless there is some strong reason for dropping them.

We all naturally expect remuneration of some sort for our labor. We may not be ambitious, and desire only the reward that comes from a sense of having done some good to our fellow man. The feeling of contentment at having made some one happier or better, relieved some distress, is an inward reward that is often more satisfying than the empty honors of office. But after faithfully working, with a hope that in some way our efforts would be appreciated it is depressing, to the ambition at least, to be left out when rewards are passed around.

Faithfulness in the discharge of duties ought to be the very best recommendation for preferment. The duties of Junior Deacon faithfully and properly performed, merit more the honors of higher position than the careless or neglected duties of the Senior Warden.

The same way all through from the Lodge to the Grand Body. An honored Brother—honored by his fellows in the world, in business, everywhere, but who has given little attention to the Fraternity—is sometimes made to pass on to the gate

of the Paymaster in advance of those who "borne the heat and burden of the day," where time and thought have been carefully given to the duties of subordinate positions, and whose qualification for higher and more responsible duties can be doubted. Merit ought to be rewarded, and will be rewarded —only it is sometimes a long time that "patient merit" has to wait.

There are men in the Grand Lodge whose services in the Craft in days gone by can never be forgotten. They have discharged every duty with zeal and energy; early and late they have worked with the one single purpose in view of carrying forward the great work in this state. Their efforts deserve recognition. Let their merit be rewarded.—*New York Dispatch.*

SAND.

We thank the interested Nobles who so promptly informed us of the addresses of those missing Nobles.

There a number of delinquent Shriners who will hear something drop some of these days and it will be their own fault. Kick, but pay; or if you can't, say why not and which.

We owe our thanks to the Kis-Me Gum Company of Louisville, Kentucky, for a pretty little Shrine Souvenir.

We have been trying to measure the probable results of the "milky way" journals that have striven to cover the whole fraternal field, and to date in the past three years, no well defined success has been evident in any of them.

Among the welcome visitors to our city there is one Noble whose handsome face is always wreathed in smiles, and that is P. M. Rose of Omaha, Neb., a member of Tangier and a representative of the Union Pacific. He is a special friend to the Rev. Dr. Butler of St. Mary's Avenue Congregational Church of Omaha.

As our August number went to press earlier than usual, we had to omit notices of Shrine meetings after August 8th.

We notice that *The Trestleboard,* of San Francisco and *The American Tyler* quote at length the paragraph from the Grand Commander's address (California) against the Shrine. Both these journals should know that the remarks in regard to the Holy Bible morality and religion, are strained and unfair.

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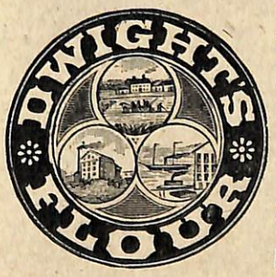

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